**Smuggling in Bhuj**

2449. SHRIMATI ANANDIBEN JETHABHAI PATEL:
SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHUTT:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that there are smuggling activities on large scale in Bhuj, Banaskanta District of Gujarat near Rajasthan for a long time;

(b) whether it is also a fact that some foreign fishermen came with their boats for smuggling purposes in the Bhuj area;

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government or proposed to be taken to plug the smuggling activities in the area; and

(d) the articles in amount seized by the Customs authorities during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) Intelligence reports and seizure statistics do not suggest large scale smuggling activities in the Bhuj & Banaskantha districts of Gujarat.

(b) There has been only one case in July, 1994 when five Pakistani fishermen were found involved in smuggling of 256 Kg. of Charas.

(c) Anti-smuggling agencies are maintaining a high alert in deterring any smuggling activity. Coastal, Air and Sea patrolling remains intensified in the vulnerable coastal areas on the west coast.

(d) The details of articles seized by the Customs authorities during the last three years in the district of Bhuj and Banaskantha are given below:

| Year | Value of *contraband seized (Rs. in lakhs) | Narcotic drug seized (in kgs.) |
|---|---|---|
| 1994-95 | Nil | 256 Kg. (Charas) 1.55 kg. (Heroin) |
| 1995-96 | 6.11 | 4.8 Kg. (Charas) |
| 1996-97 | 11.99 | 1.0 kg. (Heroin) |

* other than Narcotics

**Report of fiscal policy by Dr. Manmohan Singh**

2450 PROF. RAM KAPSE:
SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether government have received the report of Dr. Manmohan Singh, former Finance Minister, regarding fiscal policy of Government;

(b) if so, what are the salient features and recommendations made in the report; and

(c) action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

**Referring of Pay Commission report to Committee**

2451. SHRI LAKKHIRAM AGARWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the answers to Starred Question 54 and unstarred Question 1076 given in the Rajya Sabha on 25th February, 1997 and 4th March, 1997 respectively and state:

(a) the reasons in detail for referring the report of the Fifth Pay Commission to the Empowered Committee;